

AN UNCERTAIN TIME

Although *Numizmatičke vijesti* does not mark a round anniversary this year, the situation is such that we must recall some historical facts.

The founders of the Croatian Numismatic Society (1928) knew that by launching a Society journal they would achieve a wider contact with their members and the professional public and that a journal would help to realise and evaluate the Society's professional and research work. The periodical *Numizmatika* (*Numismatics*) came out from 1933 to 1936. Then followed a short break as the strength to continue publication ebbed, but the idea that the Society's work could properly be valued only through publishing led in 1939 to launching a new periodical, *Numizmatičke vijesti* (*Numismatic News*). Although the first number of *Numizmatičke vijesti* came out on only eight pages, it formed a solid foundation for the development of today's *Numizmatičke vijesti* of a high professional and scholarly quality. It is especially important that the journal has come out continuously from that first number, printed in 1939 (76 years ago!), to this 68th number. *Numizmatičke vijesti* has become a true reflection of the importance of the Croatian Numismatic Society, we might say, the "identity card" by which our Society is recognised.

The funding that the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports provided until last year, 2014, enabled our *Numizmatičke vijesti* to come out normally. However, we must also stress that the funding for *Numizmatičke vijesti* kept decreasing, especially after 2009 when we had to "say goodbye" to using colour in the magazine, and after 2010 when we had to decrease the number of black-and-white pages, too.

Sadly, the important domestic and foreign reputation of *Numizmatičke vijesti*, which is indexed in the international bibliographic base ERIH (European Reference Index for the Humanities), was this year not enough for us to receive the grant necessary for the journal's publication. This year we received almost 30% less funds from the Ministries so the publication of *Numizmatičke vijesti* in our standard form became doubtful. We will have to invest our own very modest funds in the publication of this year's magazine. If next year, in 2016, we do not receive at least last year's funding for the magazine, this number of *Numizmatičke vijesti* may be the last of this size.

This is why I felt it important to remind you, in this editorial, of the long affirmative history of *Numizmatičke vijesti* and at the same time warn you about the real danger that is threatening our journal.

As editor-in-chief of *Numizmatičke vijesti*, I collected and edited material for 17 numbers of the journal (1999-2015), designed their covers, technically laid out all the numbers and spent more than 1,500 hours at the printers. This is why I hope that our periodical's positive history will continue in the future.

Editor-in-chief
Edgar Fabry